

BEHOLD!!

Smyrna

A Newsletter of Smyrna United Church of Christ

Ministers: All members of the church

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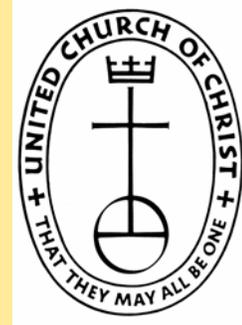
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No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

February 2017

Dear Friends,

As this goes to press, we have just completed our Annual Meeting, at which we updated our congregation's Constitution, and our Mission Statement. Grateful thanks to the committee that worked on it: Joel Daniels (who did the lion's share of the work with all the changes on the computer), Audrey Yoder, Mary Namit, Rick and Levonne Gano, and myself.

The changes reflected the current Boards and Committees, with the addition of the Art Committee, the Earth Care Committee, the Health Committee, and the Music Committee, and a Fiscal Advisory Committee instead of an Audit Committee (although one of the responsibilities of that committee is still to arrange for an audit of the church's funds at the end of each fiscal year).

We also updated the Constitution to reflect what we have been saying for years, that all are welcome, regardless of their ethnicity, age, race, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, gender, disability, or national origin.

The Mission Statement now says that Smyrna United Church of Christ is striving to be:

A place of peace, where we offer to all an extravagant welcome wherever you are in your life journey regardless of your ethnicity, marital status, religion, gender, race, age, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation, and where we teach the stories of God's love and call on our lives.

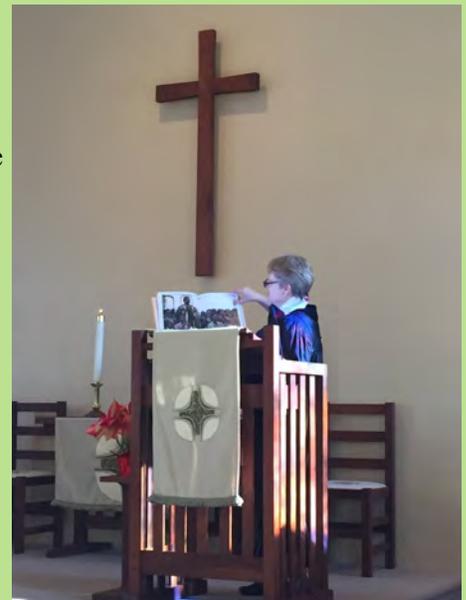
A spiritual haven, where we accept and call for all people and God's creation in an outreach of grace.

A lighthouse of God's compassion, where worship, teaching, learning, and spiritual growth take place in community, powered by thought and action.

A Christian people, working for God's realm in ecumenical harmony with other people of faith and conviction.

It's a worthy mission, a call to reflection, and action, and I'm glad to be on this journey together with you.

Blessings,
Pastor Deb



ADULT EDUCATION IN FEBRUARY

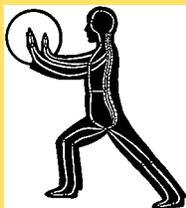
All classes meet at 9:45 in Pastor Deb's office

- February 5th – A Look at Race – the work of Ta-Nahisi Coates
- February 12th – Dreams
- February 19th – The Odes of Solomon
- February 26th – Mystery

MEMORY CAFÉ – Friday, February 3 from noon to 1:30 pm

From the Alzheimer's Association: Did you know that falls are the most common cause of traumatic brain injury, and falling poses an especially serious risk for older adults? When a senior sustains a traumatic brain injury in a fall, direct effects of the injury may result in long-term cognitive changes, reduced ability to function and changes in emotional health. Over the past 30 years, research has linked moderate and severe traumatic brain injury to a greater risk of developing Alzheimer's disease or another type of dementia years after the original head injury.

In this Memory Café, we will learn about Tai Chi, led by Tai Chi instructor Virgil Foster, which has been shown to significantly improve balance and reduce the risk of falling. We meet from noon to 1:30 pm, starting with a light lunch – it's free, but please RSVP by Wednesday, February 1 to debpatternsonhome@gmail.com or call 503-689-4450.



out in my office, and to visit and nosh during the class.

This month, Confirmation will meet on Friday, Feb 10th from 5:30 to 7:00 pm at Smyrna for dinner and to discuss the parables. Parents are welcome to stay and hang

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon is sponsoring **Interfaith Advocacy Day 2017:** “Raising Diverse Voices of Faith to Strengthen Oregon Communities”

Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Starting with breakfast and speakers at
St. Mark Lutheran Church
790 Marion St. NE, Salem

Keynote speaker:
Oregon Attorney General Ellen F. Rosenblum

Join with others of diverse faiths for workshops on advocating for compassionate legislation regarding housing, hunger, healthcare, gun safety and climate justice. Following lunch, attendees will proceed to the State Capitol and will meet with state legislators. Together, we can continue to build a just, inclusive, and hope-filled future for all Oregonians. .

Cost: \$20 general or \$10 student with ID.
Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch and all materials.

Register online at emoregon.org
For more information, call (503) 221-1054



Join us after church on Super Bowl Sunday – February 5th – for this fun event in which we have a chance to celebrate all things chili!

This lunch helps with the expenses of utilities, purchase of music and curriculum for Sunday School, salary expenses for staff (all staff at Smyrna are part-time), needed supplies for building maintenance, etc. Thank you for your generous support.

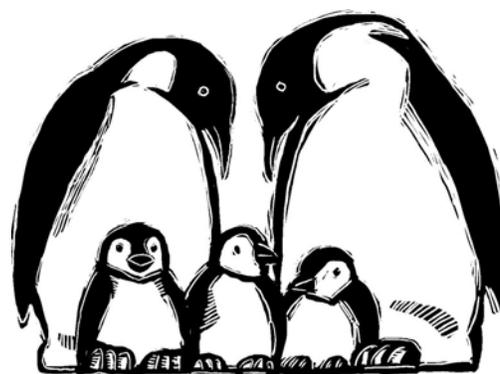
The Stitch Club will be hosting a bake sale on Sunday, February 12th during coffee hour. We are hoping to start a fund that will enable us to replace the windows on the west side of Friendship House. Our goal is to have energy efficient and easy to clean windows that will match the existing windows in our new addition.



Financial Aid for Our Youth

At our first meeting of 2017, Women's Fellowship passed a motion to give financial aid to the youth of our congregation who are attending activities connected to their schooling such as trips out of state or out of the country.

Our motion may grant up to \$100 to an applicant if accepted by the approval committee. The application forms will be available soon. If you have any questions, please contact a member of Women's Fellowship.



MUSTARD SEED Parenting Group

Meets at Smyrna on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, from 6-8 pm, starting with a light meal. The group is free and open to the public. Facilitated by Carly Itami and Rebekah Yoder. To RSVP or for more information, please e-mail carly.itami@gmail.com.



On Monday, January 16th the Stitch Club met at the home of Ethel Henderson to enjoy a stress free day and break from the ice and snow. Ethel kept us entertained and furnished us with note cards and colored pencils to prepare us for a new hobby. She also showed us many of the wood carvings that her husband, Ernie had done through the years.

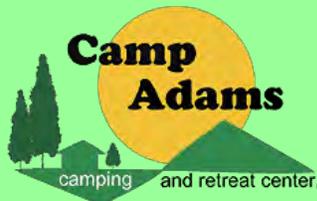


CAMP ADAMS NEWS

Summer Camp 2017 registration is open and accessible via: www.campadams.org.

Here are the dates for the summer camps:

- Taller & Smaller (K-3rd w/ Adult): July 5- July 8
- Exodus (9th-12th): July 9 - July 15
- Sojourners (6th-8th): July 16- July 22
- Discoverers (4th-5th): July 23- July 29
- Genesis/Seekers (2nd-3rd): July 30- August 5



The Women's Fellowship of Smyrna has generously offered again this year to provide a 2/3 scholarship for any Smyrna children and youth who would like to attend. Thank you for all who donated to the auction and bazaar and other fundraisers to make these scholarships possible.

A note from Natalie and Bob Becker, Directors at Camp Adams: "We are always looking for talented and dedicated young adults to fill our resident summer staff positions, so let me know if you have any possible candidates in your church community. Likewise, let me know if you have any adults who would be interested in volunteering as cabin counselors for the 2017 season."

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT AT CAMP ADAMS

The Educational Ministry Team's Middle School (Grades 6-8) Retreat is scheduled for March 10-12, 2017. Registration is open at www.campadams.org.



Youth Retreat

Stitch Club will next meet on Tuesday, February 7th at 1:00 pm at Barbara Daniels' home in Keizer.

Exercise class

Smyrna has a variety of exercise classes to help you keep your balance.

- ♦ "Aging Backwards" happens here each Monday morning in two sessions, beginning at 9:30am, and at 10am.
- ♦ Tai Chi takes place on Wednesdays at 10am and Saturdays at 9:30 am.

From a neighboring UCC pastor in Corvallis, Gayle Dee. Thought you might enjoy this, too:

"Heard this on NPR Sunday morning on the way to church. The welcome sign at Coventry Cathedral in England, original source unknown."

"We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, confused, well-heeled or down-at-heel.

We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers. We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself.

You're welcome here if you're just browsing, just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury or haven't been to church since Christmas 10 years ago.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet and to teenagers who are growing up too fast.

We welcome keep-fit moms, football dads, starving artists, tree huggers, latte sippers, vegetarians, junk food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted.

We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like organized religion. We're not that keen on it either.

We offer welcome to those who think the Earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because Granny is visiting and wanted to come to the cathedral.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither.

We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throats as kids or got lost on the Ring Road and wound up here by mistake.

We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters and You."

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Jan 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Mar 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1

10 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna
Deadline to RSVP for Memory Cafe

2

b.d. Aurora Stanbro, Helen Daniels
Winter Days of Giving

3

12-1:30 pm Memory Cafe @Smyrna

4

9:30 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna
b.d. Loretta Wallace

5

9:45 a.m. Adult Education
11 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, and Youth Group
b.d. Jean Akers

Chili Cook-off

Flowers: Volunteer needed

6

7:30 p.m. AA and AI Anon
9:30 & 10 a.m. Aging Backwards @ Smyrna
b.d. Skyler Wilson

7

1 pm Stitch Club @ Barbara Daniels
10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna
6-8 pm Mustard Seed Parenting Class @ Smyrna
9 am-4 pm Interfaith Advocacy Day

8

10 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna

9

12 Noon Women's Fellowship Luncheon

10

5:30- 7 pm Confirmation Class @ Smyrna
b.d. Rod Bullard, Elaine Daniels, Sandra Mahar

11

9:30 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna

12

9:45 a.m. Adult Education
11 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, and Youth Group
b.d. Catherine Mosiman
Coffee Hour: Mary Namit & Ginger Redlinger
Flowers: Jane Dahl

Stitch Club Bake Sale

13

7:30 p.m. AA and AI Anon
9:30 & 10 a.m. Aging Backwards @ Smyrna
b.d. Peter Holt

14

10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna
2:30 pm Diaconate meeting @ Pastor's office
b.d. Holly Schriever, Virgil Foster
Wedding Ann: Hank & Angela Baker

15

10 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna

16

b.d. Joe Yoder, Donna Yeme

17

b.d. Jean Epley

18

9:30 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna

19

9:45 a.m. Adult Education
11 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, and Youth Group
Coffee Hour: Volunteer needed
Flowers: Virginia Yoder

20

7:30 p.m. AA and AI Anon
9:30 & 10 a.m. Aging Backwards @ Smyrna
b.d. Beryl Fisher
President's Day

21

10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna
6-8 pm Mustard Seed Parenting Class @ Smyrna
7 p.m. Church Council

22

10 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna
Washington Birthday

23

12 Noon Women's Fellowship Luncheon
b.d. Eldon Blatchford

24

b.d. Johnny Bickers

25

9:30 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna

26

9:45 a.m. Adult Education
11 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, and Youth Group
Coffee Hour: Diaconate
Flowers: Barbara & Carl Menkel

27

7:30 p.m. AA and AI Anon
9:30 & 10 a.m. Aging Backwards @ Smyrna
b.d. Jane Dahl

28

10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna
b. d. Doug Stoneking



- ⇒ Joann Gribble and family
- ⇒ Allison Drake and her daughter Sofi Davidson
- ⇒ Helen Odell, in Memory Care
- ⇒ Lucia Schuebel, her family and caregivers
- ⇒ Marion Golonka, as she recovers from an injured ankle
- ⇒ David Roddy (Brenda Hammock's brother), undergoing cancer treatment
- ⇒ Blanche Kober, Vonda Stoneking and Jean Epley, in assisted living
- ⇒ Mickey Hester
- ⇒ Jon and Susie Schriever
- ⇒ All those mentioned for prayer in church

And let us hold each other, and our neighbors around the world, in prayer.

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